

Remarks

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed on May 17, 2004 and Advisory Action mailed on September 23, 2004. Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 17, and 18 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 are amended. Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-16, and 19-30 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

**I. Claim Amendments**

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate subject matter from dependent claims 5 and 6, claim 7 is amended to incorporate subject matter from dependent claims 11 and 12, and claim 13 is amended to incorporate subject matter from dependent claims 17 and 18. Support for additional amendments to claims 1, 7, 13, and 19 can be found, for example, at page 15, lines 19-22 of the present application.

**II. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103**

In Section 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fowlow et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,189,138, in view of Goldberg et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,571,232. (It is assumed that claims 19-30, although not listed at the beginning of the rejection, are subject to the rejection as well because they are treated in the detailed description of the rejection.) The correctness of this rejection is not conceded and is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, among other limitations, the following:

- a server processing resource including at least one of a message queue, a file watching process, an event manager, a print server process, a file system, and a database; and
- a database connection module that creates a data transfer connection between the programmable data object and a database when the dragged item is a database table within the database.

Neither Fowlow nor Goldberg, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests either one of these limitations for at least the following reasons.

A. Claim 1 recites a server processing resource including at least one of a message queue, a file watching process, an event manager, a print server process, a file system, and a database

Neither Fowlow nor Goldberg discloses a server processing resource including a message queue, a file watching process, an event manager, a print server process, a file system, and a database, as recited by claim 1. Fowlow discloses a distributed object system including a catalog of software resources (see col. 9, ll. 38-47), but does not disclose or suggest a server processing resource including at least one of a message queue, a file watching process, an event manager, a print server process, a file system, and a database. Goldberg discloses a system for browsing database schema information, but does not suggest a server processing resource including at least one of a message queue, a file watching process, an event manager, a print server process, a file system, and a database.

B. Claim 1 recites a database connection module that creates a data transfer connection between the programmable data object and a database when the dragged item is a database table within the database

Neither Fowlow nor Goldberg discloses a database connection module that creates a data transfer connection between the programmable data object and a database when the dragged item is a database table within the database, the database connection module comprising: a data connection object for creating and managing the data transfer connection between the programmable data object and the database; a managed resource module for providing the data connection object with address and identification information to establish the data transfer connection; and a persistent data storage for maintaining the address and identification information used by the managed resource module.

Fowlow discloses defining links among parts of a distributed object system. See, for example, Fowlow, col. 11, ll. 35-46. Fowlow also discloses an object request broker that provides location and transport mechanisms to deliver a call from a client to a server. Fowlow, col. 6, ll. 16-23. However, Fowlow fails to disclose or suggest a database connection module that creates a data transfer connection between the programmable data object and a database when the dragged item is a database table within the database. Fowlow also fails to disclose a data connection object for creating and managing the data transfer connection between the programmable data object and the database, a managed resource module for providing the data

connection object with address and identification information to establish the data transfer connection, and a persistent data storage for maintaining the address and identification information used by the managed resource module.

Goldberg discloses a database and associated schema, but fails to disclose or suggest a database connection module as recited by claim 1.

Further, there is no motivation provided in Fowlow or Goldberg to suggest it would be desirable to combine the database disclosed by Goldberg with the tool disclosed by Fowlow, or to include a database connection module as recited by claim 1.

Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1, as well as claims 2-4 that depend therefrom, are respectfully requested for at least these reasons.

Independent claims 7, 13, and 19 all include limitations similar to those noted above with respect to claim 1. Therefore, claims 7, 13, and 19, as well as claims 8-10, 14-16, and 20-30 that depend respectively therefrom, should be allowable for at least reasons similar to those provided above with respect to claim 1. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

### III. Conclusion

The remarks set forth above provide certain arguments in support of the patentability of the pending claims. There may be other reasons that the pending claims are patentably distinct over the cited references, and the right to raise any such other reasons or arguments in the future is expressly reserved.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,  
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: November 17, 2004

  
Name: Robert A. Kalinsky  
Reg. No.: 50,471  
RAK